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Classification

Thompson reported U Thant leaving for Cuba tomorrow with UN inspection personnel and communication equipment. US will provide SYG with detailed information on site locations in effort get early verification of dismantling. US considering suspending quarantine for duration of U Thant visit as UN inspectors will be at ports to check incoming cargo. Aim of suspension would be to deprive Cuban government of excuse not to give cooperation to SYG. station If such decision made, picket ships will stay on during suspension.

In response to French question, Thompson noted

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(b)(3)
(b)(5)

Thompson explained US backgrounding press that we are cautious about

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Soviet withdraw, but in no case are we encouraging any crowing or gloating over what appears to be Soviet defeat. We believe that if Khrushchev has lost he will be less likely take a tough line on Berlin, although by same token he will also be in no position make concessions on Berlin. Therefore, we do not wish draw attention to Berlin at this moment. This particularly applicable to plebiscite proposal. Knappstein promised full Allied consultation on plebiscite.

Both Thompson and Nitze stressed US belief that we would probably be on verge full-scale nuclear war if it were established that Sovs not dismantling weapons.

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Lord Hood reported UK press guidance parallels US line.

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On Berlin matters, Group agreed invite LIVE OAK General Baker to Washington for consultation on Berlin planning.

Next briefing tentatively set for tomorrow.

END

ANKARA 461	COPENHAGEN 262	LONDON 2363	REYKJAVIK 139
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